On page 47 please replace the paragraph beginning "**2.** add 500 μl lysis buffer..." with the following paragraph:

2. add 500 μl lysis buffer (incl. 1 μg carier-RNA (polyA) / ml : 5.4 M guanidinium thiocyanate; 10 mM urea; 10 mM Tris-HCL; 20 % TRITON X 100, (t-Octylphenoxypolyethoxyethanol; Polyethylene glycol tert-octylphenyl ether); pH 4.4

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 6-9 to read as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method for the detection of a nucleic acid comprising:

(a)- producing a plurality of amplificates of a section of the nucleic acid with the aid of two primers, one of which can bind to a binding sequence A of one strand of the nucleic acid and the other can bind to a binding sequence C' which is essentially complementary to a sequence C which is located in the 3' direction from A and does not overlap A; and

(b)- contacting the amplificates with a probe having a binding sequence D which can bind to a sequence B located between the sequences A and C or to the complement thereof; and

(c)- detecting the formation of a hybrid of the amplificate and probe, wherein the sequence between the binding sequences A and C contains no nucleotides that do not belong to a sequence E of the amplificate that is bound by binding sequence D of the probe and the amplificate does not exceed a total length of 100 nucleotides.

6. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the primers is immobilizably-labeled and the probe is detectably-labeled.

7. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the primers is detectably-labeled and the probe is immobilizably-labeled or is immobilized.

8. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the probe is labeled with a fluorescence quencher as well as with a fluorescent dye.

9. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein one of the primers labeled with a first energy transfer component and the probe is labeled with a second energy transfer component which is different from the first energy transfer component.